

Message Text

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46

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 OIC-02

L-02 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /078 W

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R 061210Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2654

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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LONDON PASS GRIP, INMARSAT DEL

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG OCON WTO

SUBJ: WTO: DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING FIRST ASSEMBLY

REF: A. GENEVA 3155; B. GENEVA 3162

1. IN REVIEW OF LAST MINUTE DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING
FIRST WTO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SYG LONATI MADE FOLLOWING
POINTS MAY 2:

A. HEADQUARTERS SITE: MEXICAN DEL WILL TABLE
MOTION SIMILAR TO THAT OFFERED AT UN (A/RES/3004/XXVII)
22 JANUARY 23) PRIOR TO SELECTION OF NAIROBI AS SEAT
OF UN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY SECRETARIAT CALLING ON WTO
TO ESTABLISH ITS PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS IN A DEVELOPING
COUNTRY. MEXICAN AMBASSADOR HERE HAS BEEN THREATENING
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TO ATTACK LONATI'S SELECTION MADRID AS SITE OF FIRST

GENERAL ASSEMBLY CHARGING SYG'S CONSULTATIONS WERE NOT PROPERLY CONDUCTED.

B. EFFECTIVE DATE OF WTO STATUTES: WITH SWISS GOVERNMENT INDICATING THAT THERE IS DOUBT AS TO VALIDITY OF REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S ADHERENCE TO WTO STATUTES IN VIEW OF ROMANIAN OPPOSITION, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT EFFECTIVE DATE OF 51ST MEMBERSHIP WILL BE SEPTEMBER INSTEAD OF JULY 1974 AND HENCE THAT EFFECTIVE DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF WTO STATUTES WILL BE JANUARY 1975 INSTEAD OF NOVEMBER 1974. ONE RESULT OF THIS POSITION, IF ACCEPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WILL BE THAT ARTICLE 42 MEMBERSHIPS WILL REMAIN VALID UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1976, INSTEAD OF UNTIL NOVEMBER 1, 1975.

C. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: ASSEMBLY WILL HAVE TO DECIDE HOW MANY MEMBERS THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SHALL HAVE. ACCORDING TO THE STATUTES, THERE SHALL BE ONE COUNCIL MEMBER FOR EVERY FIVE FULL MEMBERS OF THE WTO. THE ASSEMBLY WILL OPEN WITH A MEMBERSHIP OF 94. BY THE ONE FOR FIVE PRINCIPLE, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SHOULD HAVE 18.8 MEMBERS. IN THE IUOTO, ANYTHING OVER THREE QUARTERS OF A MEMBER WAS COUNTED AS ONE MEMBER. IN IUOTO THERE WAS ONE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR EVERY FOUR MEMBERS OF IUOTO. ACCORDINGLY IT WILL HAVE TO BE DECIDED WHAT PERCENTAGE OF A POINT SHOULD BE COUNTED AS ONE BY THE WTO. WITH WTO HAVING 94 FULL MEMBERS SHOULD THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BE COMPOSED OF 18 OR 19 MEMBERS?

COMMENT: US DEL SHOULD BE PREPARED TO TAKE A POSITION ON THIS QUESTION.

D. OBSERVERS AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY: AT A REGIONAL IUOTO MEETING HELD IN AMSTERDAM IN LATE APRIL A TURKISH CYPRIOT TRIED TO SIT AS AN OBSERVER, BUT WAS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE MEETING PRESIDENT. HE WAS THEN BLANKETED INTO THE TURKISH DELEGATION AS AN EXPERT/ADVISER AND SAT THROUGHOUT THE SESSION. IT

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IS POSSIBLE THAT A SIMILAR EFFORT WILL BE MADE AT MADRID BY THE TURKISH/CYPRIOTS. COMMENT: THE US DEL SHOULD HAVE A POSITION PAPER ON THIS ISSUE. ABRAMS

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